



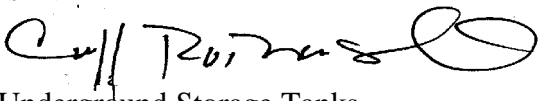
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

28 MAR 2003

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY
RESPONSE

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Changes to the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Corrective Action Performance Measures Definitions

FROM: Cliff Rothenstein 
Director, Office of Underground Storage Tanks

TO: Regional UST/LUST Division Directors, Regions 1-10

I am sending to you small but important changes to the leaking underground storage tank definitions for Cleanups Initiated and Cleanups Completed. Specifically, the changes address those sites with a Confirmed Release where the state has determined no cleanup action is necessary. These changes will now allow a state, by definition, to consider these types of releases as a Cleanup Initiated and a Cleanup Completed.

Currently, the Underground Storage Tank (UST) program collects data on three corrective actions measures: Confirmed Releases, Cleanups Initiated and Cleanups Completed. These measures are reported twice a year by states through the regions to OUST in the Semi-Annual Activity Report. The current definition for Cleanups Initiated requires that some physical activity be taken at the site (e.g., pumping, soil treatment, monitored natural attenuation) before the state records a cleanup has been initiated at the site. Subsequently, the state's remedial goals need to be achieved before the site can then be recorded as a Cleanup Completed.

Several states currently manage a subset of sites where, after a release is confirmed, the site is investigated, and it is determined that no cleanup action is required. In such cases, states are prevented from classifying the site as a Cleanup Completed, because, by current definition, a cleanup was not initiated. OUST discussed this issue with the UST/LUST regional program managers and the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials LUST Task Force and they have concurred with the attached changes to the Cleanup Initiated and Cleanups Completed definitions.

The attachment provides you with the specific revised definition and clarifications (changes in bold) that allows sites that have been evaluated/investigated and determined to meet state goals protective of human health and the environment to be classified as a Cleanup Initiated and, by

extension, a Cleanup Completed. This revised definition and clarifications replace the current ones and should be used for reporting starting with the next Semi-Annual Activity Report at the end of 2003. Additionally, the revised performance measures can be downloaded from the OUST website at <http://www.epa.gov/oust/cat/camarchv.htm>.

Please contact me or Richard Mattick or my staff at 703-603-7154 with any comments or questions.

Attachment

cc: Marianne Horinko, OSWER
Barry Breen, OSWER
Regional Branch Chiefs
Regional Program Managers
OUST

